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SCIENTIFIC NEWS.

Agriochærus and Artionyx.—Mr. Hatcher has lately collected and sent to me from the White River bad lands of South Dakota a number of specimens of the genus *Agriochærus* Leidy. This material demonstrates the fact that the genus *Artionyx* of Osborn and Wortman is a synonym of *Agriochærus* and very probably, that the specimens which I described under the name of ? *Mesonyx dakotensis* from the same horizon, should be referred to the same or to some closely allied animal. A description of this extraordinary type will very soon be published.

W. B. SCOTT.

The Haeckel Celebration.—On the 16th of February, Ernst Haeckel completed the sixtieth year of his life. On the 17th, the little town of Jena, in whose University Haeckel is Professor of Zoology, was thronged by a great crowd of his friends, pupils and admirers, among whom may be specially mentioned the Hertwigs (Oscar and Richard), Waldeyer, Arnold Lang and Hermann Credner, besides many well known professors of Jena itself. The chief ceremony of the day was the uncovering of the marble bust of the great scientific worker and writer, from the chisel of the eminent sculptor, Professor Kopf of Rome. At noon the lecture-theatre of the Zoological Institute, in which the greater part of Haeckel's life work has been carried on, was crammed from floor to ceiling, and Professor R. Hertwig, of Munich, the pupil, friend and colleague of Haeckel, was called upon to unveil the bust. In an admirably-worded speech he alluded to the main facts of Haeckel's life, and especially to his labors in the cause of science and scientific freedom. The unveiling of the striking bust was the signal of a great outburst of applause, and when this had subsided, a deputation from some societies, the Medicinische-naturwissenschaftliche Gesellschaft of Jena and the Geographische Gesellschaft of Thüringen, offered to Professor Haeckel their honorary membership. They were followed by a deputation from the students, who expressed in enthusiastic terms their admiration and respect for the Professor of Zoology. Professor Max Fürbringer of Jena followed with details concerning the subscription to the bust, informing us that there had been nearly 700 subscribers, who sent their tokens of appreciation from all parts of the world; he especially alluded to the gratifying fact that many subscriptions had come from France. As a consequence of this, the total

amount exceeded the cost of the bust by at least £300, and this sum he had pleasure in placing in the hands of Professor Haeckel, for him to devote to such purpose as he might think best in the interests of science.

After the ceremony, and after Professor Haeckel had, not without emotion, acknowledged the honors showered upon him, the elect among the visitors adjourned to a banquet in the Hotel Zum Bären, where covers were laid for about 120 of both sexes. The day concluded with the characteristic German institution, a "Commers," in which almost all the students in Jena seemed to be taking part. Cheers for the Professor, songs and speeches in his honor, mingled with the clinking of glasses, enlivened the old university till a late hour at night.—*Natural Science*, March.

Mr. Henry O. Forbes, well known for his interesting account of his travels through the Eastern Archipelago, has been appointed Curator of the Liverpool Museum.

Dr. J. Boehm, the botanist, of Vienna, is dead at the age of 62.

Richard Spruce, the botanist, died at Coneysthorpe, England, Dec. 29, 1893, at the age of 76. He traveled extensively in his younger years and accumulated one of the most valuable herbaria in England; he also published numerous botanical papers, but he will longest be known from his successful efforts in introducing the *Cinchona* plants into India.

Dr. Friedrich Zschokke has been made ordinary professor of zoology in the University of Basel, in the place of Prof. Dr. L. Rüttimeyer retired.

Dr. J. Vosseler, formerly of Tübingen is privat-docent of Zoology in the technical high school of Stuttgart.

Dr. W. Migula, formerly docent, has been made Professor of Botany and Bacteriology in the technical high school at Karlsruhe.

Dr. Saposchnikoff has become Professor of Botany at the University of Tomsk, Siberia.

Mr. R. T. Günther is to be science tutor in the Magdalen College, Oxford.

The library of the late Prof. A. Milnes Marshall has been given to Owens College, Manchester, by his friends and executors.

The Sixth Geological Congress will meet in Zürich from August 20 to September 2, 1894.

Dr. Justus Karl Hasskarl, the botanist, who introduced the cultivation of *Cinchona* into Java, died at Cher, Prussia, Jan. 5, 1894.

Edmond Frémy, Director of the Museum of Natural History at Paris, is dead.

Alexander Theodor von Middendorf, the Arctic explorer, died Jan. 28, 1894. He was born in St. Petersburg in 1815.

Dr. K. Zelinka of Graz has been appointed extraordinary professor of zoology in the University of Vienna.

The list of literature in the current volume of the "*Zoologischer Anzeiger*" has been greatly improved, not only by being brought out more promptly than heretofore but by the addition of abstracts of a few lines stating the substance of the article. It may be that editors and publishers were spurred up to this by the announcement of the "*Zoologisches Centralblatt*," the first number of which bears date Feby. 1, 1894. This new publication is designed to furnish abstracts of the principal articles at the earliest possible moment. It is edited by Dr. A. Schuberg of Karlsruhe, with the assistance of Professors Bütschli of Heidelberg and Hatschek of Prag. The first number, containing 40 pages, is not remarkably strong.

The San Francisco Microscopical Society extends a cordial invitation to those interested in microscopy to visit its rooms, 432 Montgomery St., San Francisco, Cal., and to attend its meetings the first and third Wednesday of each month. The officers for 1894-95 are Prof. W. E. Ritter, president; W. E. Loy, vice-president; F. E. Crofts, recording secretary; G. O. Mitchell, corresponding secretary; C. C. Riedy, treasurer.

The following is the list of officers of the Zoological Society of Philadelphia: President, Charles Platt; Vice-president, J. Vaughn Merrick; Corresponding Secretary, Prof. H. C. Chapman; Treasurer, William Hacker; Directors, W. H. Merrick, I. J. Wistar, C. W. Trotter, F. S. Fassitt, G. C. Morris, F. W. Lewis, M. D., C. M. Lea,

C. C. Febinger, D. S. Sellers, S. G. Dixon, M. D., J. B. Henry, J. B. Leonard.

Hon. Walter Rothschild proposes to publish a periodical in connection with his museum at Tring, under the title of "Novitates Zoologicae." It will contain papers on mammals, birds, etc., and also discussions on questions of zoological or paleontological interest. Descriptions of new species will be confined almost entirely to those of which the types belong to the Tring Museum, and the other articles will, for the most part, be founded on work carried on at that museum or on specimens sent by Mr. Rothschild's collectors.

From the March number of *Forest and Stream* we learn that the buffalo in Yellowstone Park are again being harassed by hunters. A year ago this winter several buffalo were killed; last spring and the spring before, a number of calves were captured; this winter ten buffalo have been slaughtered at a single killing. At this rate it will not be long before the last shall have been shot down. It is for the people to say whether or not they desire this.

Dr. Robert Lamborn has presented a valuable library of archeology to the University of Pennsylvania.

The Zoological Garden of Philadelphia purchased the orang-outang which was on exhibition in the Javanese Village at Chicago. It is a very intelligent and cheerful animal. Subsequently it acquired a pair of Cheetahs, and the rare *Felis egra* and *F. jaguarondi* from Mexico.

Extracts from examination papers: "The meganucleus breaks up, the micronucleus breaks down." "I don't quite understand the difference between Bacterier and posterior."